

Just last week, at COP 27, President Biden doubled down on this proposal and announced even more burdensome requirements on U.S. oil and gas sources. Meanwhile, Americans were pumping away their paychecks as prices for gas and home heating skyrocketed.

This administration needs to refocus its priorities by increasing domestic energy production, expediting pipeline permitting, and abandoning burdensome rulemakings that are harming American agriculture.

Let's face facts. America's farm families and consumers have struggled with fractured supply chains, skyrocketing input costs, and historic levels of inflation, economic woes exacerbated by congressional Democrats' excessive spending and the Biden administration's burdensome regulatory agenda. Under this administration, farm production expenses are up nearly \$80 billion, led by an 84 percent, or \$21 billion, increase in fertilizer expenses and a 65 percent increase in fuel expenses.

As the Biden administration's self-inflicted energy crisis surges into a diesel shortage, they continually pass the buck by blaming domestic energy producers.

Further, Biden's regulatory assault destroys any incentive for domestic energy producers to invest in energy infrastructure, which worsens energy market volatility and increases costs for vital farm inputs such as diesel fuel and fertilizer.

In October 2022, EIA reported the distillate fuel oil inventory at 106 million. This is the lowest stock since 2008; the lowest stock for this time of the year since 1982; and, in some regions, the lowest inventory since 1950.

Diesel fuel is used every day to power farm and ranch equipment and deliver goods to the marketplace. This Biden-inflicted diesel crisis further exacerbates record inflation, skyrocketing farm input costs, and consumer prices. The national average price for diesel fuel per gallon is \$5.36 a gallon, an increase of \$1.71, or 50 percent, from this time just last year.

By gambling away American energy and resource independence in the name of climate change, the Biden administration has harmed the very industry, U.S. agriculture, that contributes to 13 percent of the annual greenhouse gas sequestration.

Just this past summer, President Biden went to the Saudis and begged OPEC+ to increase production. Instead of relying on our adversaries and asking them to produce more, we should be focused on the responsible development of America's own abundant natural resources.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans have solutions focused on reversing industry-crushing regulations and market signals, unleashing production of crude oil, streamlining permitting and environmental review processes, and restoring refining capacity.

We must reverse this self-inflicted crisis and unleash our domestic energy production.

DELIVERING STUDENT DEBT RELIEF

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Missouri (Ms. BUSH) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, St. Louis and I rise today in full support of President Biden's student debt relief plan in the face of Republican efforts to block economic relief for millions of people.

The \$1.9 trillion student debt crisis has cost people more than just money. It has stripped countless people of the opportunity to start a family, buy a home, start a business, or further their education.

My office has been collecting heart-breaking stories from constituents across Missouri's First District about how student debt relief would impact their lives for the better. Here are some of their stories.

Michelle H. writes: "The ongoing gloom and constant worry of student loan debt will lessen significantly. Even if some of the debt I have accumulated through student loans was forgiven, my entire quality of life will drastically increase, and my mental health would also increase. This would be absolutely life-changing."

Amy V. notes: "We will be able to buy a house, my first mortgage. This will allow me to pay off other bills and increase my credit score. I cannot afford the monthly payment of over \$900 per month."

Alison M. writes: "I have been swimming in debt since I graduated college with a degree and a job. At one point, I couldn't even afford to move out of my parents' because my student loans were over \$1,000. Sallie Mae ruined my credit score, and now that I finally have somewhat of a stable income. If this debt relief comes through, I can actually see a light at the end of still a long tunnel. But, before, I never even thought there was such a light."

These are just three of the 43 million borrowers who are depending on transformative student debt relief measures that will change their lives forever.

I share my own personal story of my journey grappling with immense student loan debt. As a single mom of two, working an hourly job that made less than \$10 an hour, even after working there for 10 years, I struggled to provide for my family and myself. I knew I needed a change, a career change, but that meant I would need to go back to school and that I would ultimately incur student debt.

I thought that once I graduated and got a steady job, I would be able to pay it back quickly. So, I enrolled in nursing school, took out loans, and a few years later, I was a registered nurse.

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For the most part, everything went as I expected, and it wasn't until I was

faced with that first payment that I realized just how astronomical this debt burden became. Even with a job that paid more money than I had ever made before, it still felt impossible to be able to pay it off.

Ultimately, I was able to pay off my student loans, but it took years. During those years I struggled to pay these loans, I faced multiple eviction notices and was evicted, had difficulty feeding my two babies and affording childcare as I worked long and odd hours as a nurse. It was hard, and at times it felt impossible. I would have welcomed debt relief, and it is why I am pushing so hard to remove that economic burden for current and future generations.

Education should be affordable, equitable, and accessible to absolutely everyone. It should lead to prosperity and opportunity, not debt.

I share these stories with you, my colleagues, and implore us all to continue supporting the Biden administration in backing down the dark money and right-wing attacks on student debt relief and to continue standing with borrowers by extending the payment pause beyond December 31st and using every single legal authority to deliver student debt relief. We have a responsibility and an obligation to cancel student debt now.

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME AND KANSAS FOOD AID LEGACY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MANN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the American farmer and to deliver the 15th installment of my farm bill impact series.

The United States is the most food-secure country in the world thanks to the strength and determination of American farmers, ranchers, and agriculture producers. With America's robust resources, we have been committed to ensuring food security at home and around the world, and Kansas has been on the cutting edge of that effort for nearly a century.

In September of 1953, Peter O'Brien, a farmer from Cheyenne County, Kansas, stood up at his local county farm bureau meeting to share an idea. He wanted to use Kansas grain to help hungry people around the world. Over the next several months, today's Food for Peace program was crafted. The following year, one of Kansas' favorite sons, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, signed parts of the program into law. That was the beginning of what is now a longstanding Kansas tradition of commitment, care, and leadership in the international effort to address global hunger.

Two weeks ago, I hosted David Beasley, the executive director of the World Food Programme, in Kansas for an event to thank the American farmer. Executive Director Beasley had just been in Egypt, Ethiopia, and Rome, but he came to Kansas because he understands the impact that farmers in my